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NORTHERN FLICKER NESTING ATTEMPT IN THE GROUND

RONALD D. HOFF and DOLLYANN MYERS
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Dollyann Myers and I were birding at the Eagle Bend fish hatchery in Anderson County on June 16, 2011 when we ran into an employee there named Ernie Poore. He told us that he thought he had a Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) nesting in a hole in his front yard. Dollyann and I knew that flickers fed heavily on ants (75% of their diet is ants <Winkler, et al>), but neither of us had ever heard of them nesting in the ground. We thought this was pretty rare behavior for Northern Flicker, and we wanted to document it. Mr. Poore then invited us to come out to his home and look at the nest. We agreed and on June 22nd we went to his home, which is located on Potter Chapel Road, just south of state highway 298, in southwest Morgan County, Tennessee. This is approximately 36° 05′ 30″ N and 84° 45′ 25″ W.

The nest hole was about 25 meters from Mr. Poore's home in a grassy front yard with no mature trees. The nest hole appeared to be approximately 35.5 cm deep, with a 12 cm wide opening. Six white eggs, with some debris stuck to them, lay in the bottom. We asked Mr. Poore if he had witnessed the birds excavating the hole and he said no. He stated that during the land preparation for his home a few years earlier, there were many small pine trees that were cleared off the property to allow for a grassy front yard. The hole looked to us, and we hypothesized, that this hole was probably where a pine tree stump had rotted and left the hole. Mr. Poore stated that he had been seeing the birds coming and going to the hole, but in the hour that we were at this site we did not see any adults around. Heavy rains were persistent in the area previous to our visit. We kept in touch with Mr. Poore and he said the adults never came back, apparently abandoning the nest (maybe because of the heavy rains collecting in the bottom of the nest

The shoe is 11.4 cm across, for size comparison.

The nest hole was approximately 35.5 cm deep.

hole). He eventually collected the eggs after determining that the nesting attempt had failed and brought them to me. The eggs measured 27.18 x 22.68 mm.

We consulted *A Guide to the Nests, Eggs, and Nestlings of North American Birds* (Baicich & Harrison, 1997), where they stated that eggs for Northern Flicker were white and measured 28 x 22mm. No mention was made of nesting in the ground. We checked other references about nesting in the ground. *The Handbook of the Birds of the World* (del Hoyo, Elliot, & Sargatal, Vol. 7, 2002) states "...other sites are often used besides tree cavities, including old burrow of other birds." *Woodpeckers of the World* (Short, 1982) state that flickers "...sometimes use earthen banks and very rarely open ground." *Woodpeckers: An Identification Guide to the Woodpeckers of the World* (Winkler, et al) states that flickers will sometimes use "...silt or clay cliffs." *Life Histories of North American Woodpeckers* (Bent, 1939) states "...it has been found more than once occupying kingfisher's and enlarged Bank Swallow's burrows," but no mention is made of flickers actually nesting in a hole on level ground.

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SUCCESSION OF CAVITY USE IN A FRAGMENTED LANDSCAPE IN NORTHWEST TENNESSEE

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INTRODUCTION

Tree cavities are used by many animals for protection from predators and harsh environmental conditions. In many ecosystems, the number of available cavities can influence the number of cavity users able to occupy the environment (Short 1979). In addition, competition for newly excavated cavities may be greater than for older cavities since they are less likely to have parasites and other vermin associated with them (Short 1979, Mazgajski 2007). Woodpeckers are considered primary excavators due to their ability to excavate new cavities, while secondary cavity users (including birds, frogs, squirrels, and bats) use cavities that are already available (Martin and Eadie 1999, Martin et al. 2004, Blanc and Walters 2008). Weak cavity excavators, like chickadees and nuthatches, can excavate cavities in highly decayed wood but may also use cavities that are already available in the environment (Martin and Eadie 1999, Martin et al. 2004, Blanc and Walters 2008).

Cavity succession refers to the progression of cavity use following a primary excavator. This information can be used to build nest webs which depict the interconnectedness of the cavity nesting community (Martin and Eadie 1999, Bednarz et al. 2004, Martin et al. 2004, Blanc and Walters 2008). Nest webs can be used to identify key species whose presence influences the integrity of the cavity nesting community (Martin and Eadie 1999, Martin et al. 2004). They can also be used to determine how land use practices and other disturbances may impact the cavity nesting community (Martin and Eadie 1999, Martin et al. 2004).

Competition for cavities occurs most often between birds that are relatively the same size. The size of the cavity depends on the size of the primary user. Woodpeckers excavate cavities just large enough for their own bodies to enter which is thought to lower predation and prevent larger animals from usurping the cavities (Short 1979). For example, European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) may be more likely to compete with Red-bellied Woodpeckers (*Melanerpes carolinus*), Red-headed Woodpeckers (*M. erythrocephalus*), and Northern Flickers (*Colaptes auratus*) since the openings created by these species are accessible for the starlings. Downy Woodpeckers (*Picoides pubescens*) are less likely to experience competition because the starlings would have to enlarge the cavity in order to use it. Occasionally a larger animal will usurp a smaller cavity and enlarge the cavity opening to fit its body size (Short 1979).

Competition between woodpeckers and starlings is increased in fragmented landscapes because there is an increase in the amount of edge habitats. Edge habitats tend to have a higher diversity of competitors and predators because they include both forest and open field species. Ingold (1989, 1994) found that European Starlings are more likely to usurp cavities on the exterior of the forest rather than the interior. In areas where starling populations are high, woodpeckers may be forced to delay their reproductive effort until later in the year after the starlings have completed their breeding season (Weibe 2003). Since woodpeckers provide new cavities in the ecosystem, the impact of starlings on the reproduction and fitness of woodpeckers, may in turn impact the availability of cavities for other users (Weibe 2003).

Our goal is to observe cavity succession from the time a woodpecker excavates a cavity until the time it is no longer available for use. From this information, we would like to create a nest web that can be used to investigate the interconnectedness of cavity users. In addition, we would like to document the impact of European Starlings on the reproductive success and fitness of woodpeckers and determine if that has an impact on the number of cavities available to other secondary users. In this article, we report one incident of cavity succession from the time the cavity was excavated until the snag with the cavity fell.

METHODS

This study took place at the University of Tennessee at Martin Agricultural Experiment Station, a 240-acre fragmented agricultural landscape. We followed Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Northern Flickers, and Downy Woodpeckers to find freshly excavated cavities to determine the line of succession between the primary user and any subsequent secondary cavity users. Once a cavity was located, we monitored the cavity using a TreeTop Peeper™ II System (Sandpiper Technologies, Inc.). The Peeper was designed to decrease the amount of time and labor spent inspecting Red-cockaded Woodpecker cavities compared to other cavity inspection techniques (Richardson et al. 1999). It consists of a color cavity nest camera mounted on an extendable 50-ft fiberglass pole. A color monitor is mounted on the pole for observation of the cavity's contents. We checked the cavity periodically and recorded any activity observed at the cavity site.

RESULTS

All of the following observations were taken at a cavity (4.7 m high) in a Black Willow (*Salix nigra*) snag facing a soybean field. The cavity was modified with a second opening after it was usurped by European Starlings.

Red-bellied Woodpeckers — On 27 March 2007, we observed a male Red-bellied Woodpecker calling from the cavity. A female investigated the male's snag, but did not enter the cavity. Less than 100 yards away, there was an active starling nest in a natural cavity. The female woodpecker flew from the

male's cavity to the starling's snag and interacted with the pair. The woodpeckers' awareness of the starlings may have impacted their cavity use.

European Starlings — We investigated the contents of the cavity on 6 April 2007 and observed an active starling nest with 4 eggs. The next week there was a late-season cold front. On 24 April 2007 the eggs were gone. There was not enough time between the first and second time the cavity was checked for the starlings to have completed a successful nesting attempt (Kessel 1957).

Eastern Bluebirds — On 4 June 2007, we observed a female Eastern Bluebird near the cavity. Over the next week we observed the female entering and leaving the cavity. On 7 June 2007, we investigated the cavity and found 5 eggs. We checked the cavity about twice a week until 21 June 2007 when there were two nestlings days away from fledging. The cavity was unoccupied for the rest of the summer and the snag blew down during a storm over the winter, ending the line of succession.

DISCUSSION

This cavity was excavated by a Red-bellied Woodpecker, usurped by a pair of European Starlings, and later occupied by a pair of Eastern Bluebirds. This line of succession can be used, with additional observations, to construct a nest web which represents connections between primary and secondary cavity users and highlights the interdependence of members of the cavity nesting community (Blanc and Walters 2008, Martin and Eadie 1999, Martin et al. 2004).

By investigating cavity succession and nest webs we can highlight keystone species and interactions that may be important in understanding how shifts in land use or other disturbances may disrupt the cavity nesting community (Martin and Eadie 1999). In particular, we are interested in how the presence of the introduced European Starling may influence the cavity nesting community in a fragmented landscape. If starlings are reducing the fitness and shifting the breeding season of resident woodpeckers, then that may in turn impact the abundance and reproduction of secondary cavity users.

The succession of cavity use that we observed is going to be useful as we continue to look at the interconnectedness of the cavity nesting community in this fragmented landscape. Eventually this type of data can be used to build a nest web and identify key species and interactions in this community. In particular, we will continue to investigate the impact of European Starlings on the timing and reproductive success of woodpeckers and, in turn, how that impacts the cavity nesting community as a whole.

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T.O.S. FALL SYMPOSIUM 2010

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The 44th TOS Fall Symposium was held in conjunction with the Fall Meeting on 2 October 2010 in Manchester.

The format of the symposium differed from the traditional approach. Instead of several researchers describing their individual projects, three TOS members (Dick Preston from West TN, Ruth Luckado from Middle TN, and Rick Knight from East TN) made presentations and led discussions about changes in bird numbers in their respective parts of the state.

The speakers presented lists of species whose numbers have recently changed and species whose numbers might change noticeably, either up or down, in the near future. Some species, such as Northern Bobwhite, in which population changes are well documented and publicized (although not necessarily well understood), received less attention from the speakers than did several species whose population changes are less well known. A summary of their lists is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of changes in TN bird populations based on presentations at the TOS 2010 Fall Symposium.

*Additional declining species mentioned (and the state region): Whip-poor-will (W), House Sparrow (W), Rock Pigeon (W), and Purple Finch (E).

**Additional increasing species mentioned (and the state region): Yellow-breasted Chat (W), Northern Mockingbird (W), Turkey Vulture (W), Snow Goose (W), Ross's Goose (W), Carolina Wren (W), Blue Grosbeak (W), Chipping Sparrow (W), Purple Martin (W), Fish Crow (E), Common Raven (E), Dickcissel (E).

***Additional species whose numbers may soon change with projected direction of change (- or +) (and the state region): Cerulean Warbler (W), Horned Lark (W), Rusty Blackbird (W), Field Sparrow (W), Common Grackle (W), Prothonotary Warbler (W).

A major function of the program was to stimulate thought and discussion about various species and the factors that are responsible for population changes. From this perspective, the symposium was successful. Each speaker responded to numerous questions and generated additional questions.

A few species, such as Northern Bobwhite and Loggerhead Shrike, made all three lists of declining species. However, most species appeared on only one regional list, which is not surprising considering the habitat and climatic differences between the three geographic regions of Tennessee. And, as Dick pointed out, even within a region a species may be increasing in some areas while declining in others.

Due to time limitations, not all species of interest could be discussed. For example, if this symposium had been held in 1995, every speaker would probably have mentioned House Finches, a species that received little attention in 2010. This is not to imply that House Finch numbers are stable across Tennessee and/or they are not worthy of investigation. House Finches, like every other species, have a story to tell. But each book has room for only a limited number of chapters.

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2010 TENNESSEE FALL BIRD COUNTS

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This summary reports on all of the Tennessee Fall Bird Counts, including traditional Fall Counts and the Fall North American Migration Count (NAMC), typically held on the thi[rd] Saturday in September, which was September 18 this year. This year 165 observers on 10 counts spent 485.3 party hours in the field to find 52,267 individuals representing 179 species. The weather this year was about normal, with several counts experiencing some light rain and several counts had some moderate winds. No extreme conditions were noted for any of the counts. Temperatures ranged from a brisk 47 in Nashville to a sweltering 94 in White Co.

Notable highlights this year included Ruffed Grouse, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Sora, Western Sandpiper, Barn Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Whip-poor-will, Olive-sided, Yellow-bellied, Alder and Scissor-tailed flycatchers, Warbling Vireo, Fish Crow, Bank Swallow, Winter, Sedge and Marsh wrens, Hermit Thrush, 33 species of warblers, and Fox and Lincoln's sparrows. Northern Bobwhite and Loggerhead Shrike continue to be harder to find on these counts, indicating a worrying population decrease.

COUNTY SUMMARIES

(F/Y = feeder/yard watcher)

Blount County – 18 September; 0515-1945. Weather: foggy to mostly sunny; 61-88° F. Areas covered included Abram's Creek campground, Alcoa, Alcoa duck pond, Alcoa Marsh, parts of Alcoa/Maryville greenway, Alcoa west plant area, Cades Cove, Chilhowee Dam, Eastern Blount Co., Foothills Parkway, Friendsville, Kyker Bottoms Refuge, Louisville, Louisville Point Park, Lowes Ferry Road (from Poland Creek to Phelps' dairy farm), Maryville, Maryville College woods, Maryville greenbelt lake, Old Walland Highway, Pistol Creek wetlands, Poland Creek, Sevierville Road, Tapoca and Calderwood Dam areas, Townsend, U.T. farms on Singleton Station Road, and White's Mill Refuge. Count highlights included Green-winged Teal, Black-billed Cuckoo, Red-headed Woodpecker, Olive-sided and Least flycatchers, Loggerhead Shrike, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-breasted and Brown-headed nuthatches, and Blue-winged, Orange-crowned, Black-throated Blue, and Wilson's warblers. Observers: Jean J. Alexander (compiler: 3908 Riverview Dr., Maryville, TN 37804; jjadmj@infionline.net), Warren Bielenberg, Fae A. Burkhart, Jim Fitzgerald, Marian D. Fitzgerald, Tom E. Fitzgerald, Sandy B. Graves, Kim J. Henry, Stephen P. Henry, Thomas D. Howe, Susan Hoyle, David M. Johnson, Mary Laura Koella, Karen J. Petrey, Georgia Pomphrey, and June D. Welch.

Davidson County – 18 September; 0700-1100. Weather: clear and sunny; 58-83° F. This short North American Migration Count started on Mission Hill and finished

in Shelby Bottoms. Highlights included Cooper's Hawk, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, House Wren, and Golden-winged and Wilson's warblers. Observers: Frank Fekel, Susan Hollyday, Linda V. Kelly (compiler: 927 Percy Warner Blvd., Nashville, TN, 37205; likebird@bellsouth.net), Amy Potter, Jan Shaw, Danny Shelton, and Mary Zimmerman.

DeKalb County – 25 September; 0515-1915. Weather: partly cloudy to cloudy, with 0.2" of rain early in the morning; 66-83° F. This was a thorough but one-time Fall Bird Blitz. Highlights included 9 species of raptors, Black-billed Cuckoo, Acadian Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and 27 species of warblers (including Wilson's and Canada). Also found on the count but not included in the statistics were a couple of Ring-necked Pheasants, presumably from earlier introductions or a nearby game farm. Observers: Brenda K. Curtis, Douglas A. Downs, George Elrod, Judy C. Fuson, Linda Henderson, Michael J. Hawkins (compiler: 1563 Love Colony Road, Smithville, TN 37166; mjhawk@dtc-com.net), Peggy B. Huffstetler, Nancy S. Layzer, Edmund K. LeGrand, Michael P. O'Rourke, Michelle S. O'Rourke, Thomas M. Saya, Barbara H. Stedman, Stephen J. Stedman, Holly Taylor, Winston A. Walden, and Carole D. Williams.

Elizabethton – 25 September; 0445-1930. Weather: partly cloudy overall but some light rain and 5-10 mph wind in the mountains; 58-81° F. This was the 41st consecutive Fall Count at Elizabethton. The count area includes Carter County and parts of adjacent Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington Counties. The average number of species for this count for the last 20 years is 124 and the all-time high count was 137 in 1993. Black-billed Cuckoo was a new species for this count, bringing the cumulative species total for this count to 216. Other count highlights included Ruffed Grouse, 12 species of raptors, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Philadelphia Vireo, Bank Swallow, Winter and Marsh wrens, all 7 species of thrushes, American Pipit, Canada Warbler, and Bobolink. The following species were recorded in record high numbers for this count: Canada Goose, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Black Vulture, American Kestrel, Spotted Sandpiper, Rock Pigeon, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Blue Jay, Carolina Wren, and House Finch. Observers: Aubrie Abernethy, Fred Alsop, Jim Anderson, Emily Bayes, Paul Bayes, Rob Biller, Lynn Brandon, Rack Cross, Gil Derouen, Dianne Draper, Glen Eller, Kathy Gunther, Paul Haynes, Jacki Hinshaw, Don Holt, Mark Hopey, Rick Knight (compiler: 804 N. Hills Dr., Johnson City, TN 37604; rknight8@earthlink.net), Roy Knispel, Richard Lewis, Joe McGuiness, Tom McNeil, Eric Noblet, Kathy Noblet, Brookie Potter, Jean Potter, Bryan Stevens, Kim Stroud, David Thometz, Lisa Tyler, and Gary Wallace.

Greeneville – 25 September; 0600-1900. Weather: cloudy all day; 68-78° F. Count highlights included 71 Blue-winged Teal, Northern Bobwhite (becoming scarce everywhere), Merlin, Barn Owl, and Sedge Wren. Observers: Ben Britton, Cindi Britton, Mark Britton, Orland Britton, Phine Britton, Jim Holt (compiler- 311 Colonial Circle, Greeneville, TN 37745; jimbouh@comcast.net), Nata Jackson, Don Miller, Jean Obrist, JoAnne Routledge, and Larry Routledge.

2010 Fall Counts

Counties Count Dates	Blount 18-Sep	Davidson 18-Sep	DeKalb 25-Sep	Elizbton 25-Sep	Grnville 25-Sep	Knox 26-Sep	Montgry 18-Sep	Nashvl 9-Oct	Shelby 18-Sep	White 18-Oct	TOTALS
Species											
Canada Goose	249	40	6	1508	85	390	-	574	100	378	3330
Wood Duck	21	-	11	27	4	15	-	100	18	48	244
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	18
Mallard	103	-	25	518	36	58	-	142	27	13	922
Blue-winged Teal	1	-	27	135	71	82	-	3	-	5	324
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Green-winged Teal	1	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Northern Bobwhite	6	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	-	13	25
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Wild Turkey	42	-	47	45	32	10	-	61	-	56	293
Pied-billed Grebe	1	-	21	23	1	5	-	10	3	1	65
Double-crested Cormorant	1	1	2	24	-	14	-	32	1	1	76
Great Blue Heron	17	4	35	30	8	28	-	46	17	28	213
Great Egret	2	-	-	6	16	34	-	7	24	6	95
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	27
Green Heron	6	-	1	7	5	1	-	1	2	12	35
Black-crowned Night-Heron	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	6
Black Vulture	-	-	90	123	13	1	-	143	43	161	574
Turkey Vulture	45	2	235	78	58	17	-	90	54	178	757
Osprey	1	-	3	9	2	5	-	1	-	2	23
Bald Eagle	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	7
Northern Harrier	1	-	1	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	7
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	1	6	-	1	-	2	-	1	11
Cooper's Hawk	8	1	3	8	2	9	-	8	1	6	46

Accipiter sp.	-	-	-		-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	1	2	1	4	3	-	8	6	27	59
Broad-winged Hawk	10	-	11	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	26
Red-tailed Hawk	5	1	25	11	4	7	-	16	3	7	79
American Kestrel	2	-	21	25	5	5	-	12	5	23	98
Merlin	-	-	-	1	2	2	-		-	1	6
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Sora	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-		1
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	22
Killdeer	20	-	65	148	46	54	-	111	108	336	888
Spotted Sandpiper	2	-	-	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	11
Solitary Sandpiper	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	4
Greater Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	-	-	1	1	-		-	2	6	10
Semipalmated Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
Western Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Least Sandpiper	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	1842	6	1851
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	7	1	11
Wilson's Snipe		-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Ring-billed Gull	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	-	7
Rock Pigeon	45	14	8	581	66	629	-	83	164	113	1703
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	15	4	-	2	-	2	18	9	50
Mourning Dove	138	2	433	508	215	356	1	153	51	364	2221
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	-	3	1	-	8	2	5	59	6	85
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	1	-		5
Barn Owl	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Eastern Screech Owl	-	-	24	26	-	2	-	4	-	23	79
Great Horned Owl	1		3	5	1	1	-	7	-	9	27
Barred Owl		-	1	6	-	3	-	4	3	7	24

Counties Count Dates	Blount 18-Sep	Davidson 18-Sep	DeKalb 25-Sep	Elizbton 25-Sep	Grnville 25-Sep	Knox 26-Sep	Montgry 18-Sep	Nashvl 9-Oct	Shelby 18-Sep	White 18-Oct	TOTALS
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Common Nighthawk	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
Whip-poor-will	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Chimney Swift	166	15	9	768	49	448	4	69	58	70	1656
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	33	1	23	47	23	28	5	3	107	27	297
Belted Kingfisher	6	2	13	31	10	17	-	25	42	8	154
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	-	34	3	8	-	-	1	16	23	86
Red-bellied Woodpecker	40	5	104	45	27	58	2	130	35	86	532
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	1	1	2	-	3	-	27	-	1	35
Downy Woodpecker	34	6	49	38	17	44	3	107	20	79	397
Hairy Woodpecker	9	1	11	14	3	4	-	12	1	8	63
Northern Flicker	10	1	57	45	14	23	1	83	8	29	271
Pileated Woodpecker	23	1	40	27	10	8	1	27	9	41	187
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Eastern Wood-Pewee	16	5	24	11	2	31	-	26	58	37	210
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	-		-	-		1	-	-	2	-	3
Acadian Flycatcher	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	37	-	40
Alder Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Least Flycatcher	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Empidonax sp.	-	5	4	2	-	3	-	2	-	2	18
Eastern Phoebe	29	-	73	67	20	32	-	41	3	62	327
Great Crested Flycatcher	2	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	13
Eastern Kingbird	1	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	12
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

Loggerhead Shrike	1		2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
White-eyed Vireo	22	5	79	-	1	27	1	10	146	72	363
Yellow-throated Vireo	5	-	27	2	-	5	3	2	8	27	79
Blue-headed Vireo	5	-	-	10	-	1	-	-	1	13	30
Warbling Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Philadelphia Vireo	1		4	2		3	-		12	4	26
Red-eyed Vireo	8	2	7	5	1	7	-	5	53	16	104
Blue Jay	175	10	288	582	169	313	12	388	30	311	2278
American Crow	138	14	309	619	96	323	2	387	29	377	2294
Fish Crow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Common Raven	15	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Horned Lark	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Tree Swallow	-	-	62	116	102	308	-	2	-	50	640
N. Rough-winged Swallow	2	-	-	7	40	120	-	-	10	1	180
Bank Swallow	-		-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Cliff Swallow	-	-	-	10	2	-	-	-	-	-	12
Barn Swallow	5	-	8	58	52	24	-	3	1	5	156
Carolina Chickadee	124	5	159	161	43	168	3	245	50	170	1128
Tufted Titmouse	61	3	232	97	27	85	3	182	66	246	1002
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	-	3	11	-	-	-	11	-	1	29
White-breasted Nuthatch	22	-	103	41	5	5	1	83	25	109	394
Brown-headed Nuthatch	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	6
Carolina Wren	126	12	197	150	55	161	7	217	75	245	1245
House Wren	1	1	4	11	5	7	-	5	-	3	37
Winter Wren	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Sedge Wren	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Marsh Wren	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	3	4	2	4		7	-	-	7	10	37
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-		-	6	-	-	-	31	-	-	37
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	3	7	-	2	-	50	2	2	66

Counties Count Dates	Blount 18-Sep	Davidson 18-Sep	DeKalb 25-Sep	Elizbton 25-Sep	Grnville 25-Sep	Knox 26-Sep	Montgry 18-Sep	Nashvl 9-Oct	Shelby 18-Sep	White 18-Oct	TOTALS
Eastern Bluebird	57	-	270	189	55	130	1	141	22	212	1077
Veery	-	-	-	1	-	102	-	-	-	1	104
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	8	5	-	54	-	5	-	8	80
Swainson's Thrush	12	5	37	30	30	253	-	11	167	45	590
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	3
Wood Thrush	3	-	15	12	-	28	-	6	1	12	77
American Robin	125	110	98	189	99	268	1	536	84	97	1607
Gray Catbird	55	10	56	60	5	124	2	31	123	13	479
Northern Mockingbird	78	-	133	124	61	156	1	137	34	104	828
Brown Thrasher	20	9	37	11	7	59	-	42	10	18	213
European Starling	183	63	4887	1197	753	1615	-	720	150	1567	11135
American Pipit	-	-	-	1	-	7	-	-	-	-	8
Cedar Waxwing	26	-	15	243	11	39	-	67	-	22	423
Blue-winged Warbler	1	-	5	-	-	1	-	2	3	6	18
Golden-winged Warbler	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	7
Tennessee Warbler	13	2	69	67	2	69	-	82	31	23	358
Orange-crowned Warbler	4	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	7
Nashville Warbler	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	4	3	1	13
Northern Parula	1	1	10	3	-	6	2	2	51	3	79
Yellow Warbler	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Chestnut-sided Warbler	18	1	14	9	-	16	-	8	6	8	80
Magnolia Warbler	30	17	69	36	6	89	-	51	18	56	372
Cape May Warbler	-	-	1	19	4	3	-	-	-	-	27
Black-throated Blue Warbler	2	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	11

Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	-	6	6	-	4	-	204	-	1	221
Black-throat. Green Warbler	1	-	8	5	-	3	-	43	17	10	87
Blackburnian Warbler	1	-	3	3	3	11	-	4	-	8	33
Yellow-throated Warbler	1	-	4	2	-	2	-	-	4	6	19
Pine Warbler	13	-	9	5	1	17	-	10	2	17	74
Prairie Warbler	-	-	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	10
Palm Warbler	38	-	101	103	17	239	-	117	-	9	624
Bay-breasted Warbler	5	-	2	8	1	11	-	6	1	3	37
Blackpoll Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		-	-	1
Black-and-white Warbler	7	3	11	6	-	7	-	3	7	16	60
American Redstart	13	6	48	9	1	38	-	4	10	16	145
Worm-eating Warbler	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	5
Ovenbird	2	-	4	4	-	1	-	3	-	6	20
Northern Waterthrush	9	-	-	3	7	2	-	1	-	3	25
Louisiana Waterthrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Waterthrush sp.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kentucky Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Mourning Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		1	-	1
Common Yellowthroat	24	1	36	14	31	37	2	19	3	17	184
Hooded Warbler	2	-	14	6	-	3	-	-	6	9	40
Wilson's Warbler	1	1	1	-	-	1	-		2	-	6
Canada Warbler	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Yellow-breasted Chat	5	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	1	3	14
Eastern Towhee	10	2	32	56	7	54	1	85	5	24	276
Chipping Sparrow	25	-	152	38	6	9	-	34	4	126	394
Field Sparrow	23	-	51	14	30	39	1	133	-	43	334
Savannah Sparrow	1	-	2	2	2	24	-	48	-	8	87
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Song Sparrow	21	-	11	93	23	61	-	27	-	31	267
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	-	-		-	-	2	-	-	2

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Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	18	-	-	20
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	-	50
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	11	-	-	12
Dark-eyed Junco	-	-	-	58	1	-	-	4	-	-	63
Summer Tanager	1	2	55	-		9	2	12	34	35	150
Scarlet Tanager	2	-	21	11	-	29	-	7	3	29	102
Northern Cardinal	147	8	236	149	111	205	5	267	40	220	1388
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5	-	51	96	-	76	-	153	19	14	414
Blue Grosbeak	5	-	19	2	23	1	-	-	-	34	84
Indigo Bunting	55	-	150	79	76	167	-	90	37	93	747
Bobolink	-	-	-	27	-	3	-	-	-	1	31
Red-winged Blackbird	221	-	3	111	463	926	-	127	-	1	1852
Eastern Meadowlark	11	-	36	7	11	2	-	51	9	86	213
Common Grackle	170	6	63	19	44	484	8	423	36	14	1267
Brown-headed Cowbird	3	-	7	1	2	66	-	20	26	23	148
Orchard Oriole	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Baltimore Oriole	-	-	-			3	-	1	1	-	5
Oriole sp.			1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
House Finch	25	14	35	163	36	93	-	47	114	5	532
American Goldfinch	151	2	68	198	35	146	1	201	18	101	921
House Sparrow	58	-	42	91	37	10	-	36	47	107	428
Total individuals	3100	386	9943	8177	3210	9198	78	6970	4445	6760	52267
Total species	115	51	119	128	88	126	28	117	103	125	179

Observers	15	7	17	30	9	23	6	31	11	16	165
Parties	10	1	7	8	8	14	1	12	5	7	73
Party hours	60.25	4	65.5	80	28.75	68.55	2.5	82.75	21	72	485.3
Hours by car	20.75	-	56.75		19.25	13.08	-	22	9	64	204.83
Hours by foot	39.5	-	4.75	-	9.5	55.47	2.5	60.75	12	8	192.47
Hours by canoe or other	-	-	4	-	-	-			-	-	4
Miles by car	290.75	4	418	-	231.9	234	-	287.5	58	512	2036.15
Miles by foot	23	3	3	-	6.5	27.5	0.5	34	14	4.5	116
Miles by canoe or other	-	-	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Hours owling	1.25	-	1	7	0.5	1.17	-	0.75	-	3.25	14.92
Miles owling	0.5	-	5	-	0.1	-	-	10	-	30.5	46.1
Feeder observers	6		-	-	4	-	-		-	-	10
Feeder hours	7.25	-		-	8	5.33	-	-	5	-	25.58

Knoxville – 26 September; 0140-0150; 0600-1900. Weather: overcast with rain showers (0.2" accumulation); winds NNE and light; 64-68° F. Count highlights included Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Sora, Western Sandpiper, Ring-billed Gull (possibly new to count – no records for past 13 years), Eurasian Collared-Dove (2nd record), Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied flycatchers, Philadelphia Vireo, Bank Swallow, Sedge and Marsh wrens, 26 species of warblers (including Blue-winged, Golden-winged, Orange-crowned, Lawrence's and Wilson's), and Bobolink. Higher than normal numbers were logged for Blue-winged Teal, Great Egret, Merlin, Tree and Northern Rough-winged swallows, thrushes (102 Veeries and 253 Swainson's – many identified by nocturnal calls), and Palm Warbler. Notable misses included Northern Bobwhite, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Bald Eagle, Red-headed Woodpecker, Common Nighthawk, and Nashville Warbler. Observers: Jean Alexander, Frank Bills, Emily Boves, Than Boves, Howard Chitwood, Gail Clendenen, Steve Clendenen, K. Dean Edwards (compiler: 1615 Meadow Chase Ln., Knoxville, TN 37931; kde@utk.edu), Carole Gobert, Paul Hartigan, Emily Hockman, Angela Hoffman, Tom Howe, Susan Hoyle, David Johnson, Tony King, Chris Lituma, Ed Manous, Ken Masarie, Mike Nelson, Charles P. Nicholson, Truett Patterson, and David Trently.

Montgomery County – 18 September; no times given. Weather: not noted. This report covers a short walk with several new birders. The count area was entirely in the Rotary Park in Clarksville. Highlights included Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Pileated Woodpecker, Gray Catbird, and Northern Parula. Daniel Moss (compiler: dmoss5@earthlink.net).

Nashville – 9 October; 0515-1830. Weather: clear and calm; 47-87° F. Notable species found included Osprey, Wilson's Snipe, American Woodcock, Black-billed Cuckoo, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Marsh Wren, Hermit Thrush, Fox and Lincoln's sparrows, and Baltimore Oriole. Observers: Sandy Bivens, Scott Block, David Buchanan, Jean Buchanan, Phillip Casteel, Clay Collins, Richard Conners, Maureen Davin, Francis Fekel, Heather Gallagher, Ed Gleaves, Mark Hackney, Susan Hollyday, Margaret Howell, Bob Ingle, Linda V. Kelly, Tony Lance, Pam Lasley, Judith Luna, Diana McLusky, Amy Potter, Ed Schneider, Rachel Schneider, Jan Shaw (compiler-5019 Timberhill Dr., Nashville, Tn. 37211; JanKShaw@aol.com), Shelia Shay, Joe Stone, Sabin Thompson, Don Weidemann, Melinda Welton, Terry Witt, and Mary Zimmerman.

Shelby County – 18 September; 0700-1800. Weather: clear in the morning turning partly cloudy in the afternoon; winds 3-12 mph; 62-90° F. Some of the areas covered for this count included Shelby Forest, Shelby Farms, The Earth Complex/Ensley Bottoms, Mud Island, North Treatment Plant, and Edmund Orgill Park. Notable highlights included 1,872 Least Sandpipers, Yellow-bellied, Alder and Least flycatchers, 6 species of vireos, Golden-winged, Mourning and Wilson's warblers, and Baltimore Oriole. Observers: Betty Blaylock, David Blaylock, Judy Dorsey, Theresa Graham, Margaret Jefferson, Dick Preston (compiler: 261 Sassafras Circle, Munford, TN 38058; dickpreston@bigriver.net), Allen Sparks, Ed Thomas, Martha Waldron, Jay Walko, and Sylvia Wortham.

White County – 18 September; 0430-1800. Weather: clear all day; winds 0-10 mph; 53-94° F. This was the seventh consecutive Fall Bird Count for White Co. Some public sites that are included in the coverage were the Bridgestone / Firestone Centennial Wilderness and parts of Rock Island State Park. Notable sightings included Merlin, Whip-poor-will, Loggerhead Shrike, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Veery, Golden-winged and Canada warblers, and Bobolink. Observers: Brenda K. Curtis, Douglas A. Downs (compiler: 403 Gillen Dr., Sparta, TN 38583; douglas_downs@hotmail.com), Janie C. Finch, Judy C. Fuson, Michael J. Hawkins, Peggy B. Huffstetler, Nancy S. Layzer, Edmund K. LeGrand, Joseph E. Mast, Michael P. O'Rourke, Michelle O'Rourke, Thomas M. Saya, Barbara H. Stedman, Stephen J. Stedman, Winston A. Walden, and Carole D. Williams.

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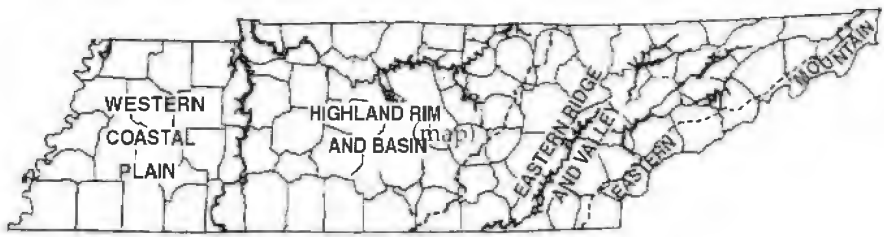
THE FALL SEASON

RICHARD L. KNIGHT, Editor



1 AUGUST - 30 NOVEMBER 2010

Summer's heat wave continued unabated well into September. November was also warmer than normal across the state. West and Middle Tennessee experienced a very dry September, while the rest of the season and state had near normal rainfall.

Waterfowl numbers seemed low, probably due to mild conditions, although several scoters and a single Long-tailed Duck were found. The Pace Point area hosted another Yellow-billed Loon, with Pacific and Red-throated Loons there as well. Another Pacific Loon near Chattanooga was more unusual. A Roseate Spoonbill in East Tennessee and a statewide scattering of White Ibises were the wader highlights. Among raptors, single immature Swainson's and Ferruginous Hawks were truly remarkable. Merlin and Peregrine numbers continued strong. Shorebird numbers were good at the expected hotspots. A Pomarine Jaeger was spotted near Pace Point. The overall passerine flight seemed to be near normal. Boreal irruptives staged a modest movement in November, consisting primarily of Purple Finches and Pine Siskins.

Among several rarities observed this season, three select species showing an increasing trend in recent years are discussed further. Each was reported at least three times this fall in Tennessee.

Although still encountered less often than the other two scoters, Black Scoter has become a nearly annual visitor to Tennessee since 1988. Nearly 80% of sightings occur from late October to early December. Of more than 70 reports from the state, over half have involved a single bird and only two reports have been of 10 or more birds, including one report this fall.

Robinson (*An Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Tennessee*, 1990) cited about 11 records of Swallow-tailed Kite for the state through 1986. Since then, at least 20 additional reports (17 in East Tennessee) have been published in *The Migrant*. Of these, 18 occurred within a range of dates from 17 July to 2 September. Obviously, August is the prime time to keep an eye out for one of these strikingly handsome raptors as post-breeding wanderers disperse from their Deep South breeding range. Tennessee sightings have occurred in 10 of the last 12 years as their population appears to be slowly recovering.

First reliably reported in Tennessee during fall 1989, Lesser Black-backed Gull has become an annual visitor to the Paris Landing - Pace Point area of Kentucky Lake over the last dozen years and is nearly annual at Pickwick Dam and Reelfoot Lake. Elsewhere it is still quite rare, with six East Tennessee reports (Chattanooga area - 3, Upper Douglas Lake - 2, and South Holston Lake - 1) and two mid-state reports (Woods Reservoir, for three consecutive winters, and Old Hickory Dam), plus two Shelby County reports.

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult
ba. - banded
Co - County
Cr - Creek
ers - earliest reported sighting
et al. - and others
fide - reported by
im - immature
Is - Island
L - Lake
lrs - latest reported sighting
max - maximum count
m.ob. - many observers
Mtn - Mountain
R - River
SP - State Park
WMA - Wildlife Management Area

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION — The weather was mostly unremarkable, except that September was the driest month in 82 years and the third driest ever in the Memphis area with just over a tenth of an inch of rain. This held true for most of the region. Temperatures were close to normal until late in the season when several cold spells were widespread.

Waterfowl: **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**: 31 Aug (female & 4 young) Horn L., Shelby Co. (JRW); thru 31 Aug (1) TVA Lake (JRW). **Snow Goose**: 25 Sep (8) Lake Co (JRW), ers. **Ross's Goose**: 14 Nov (1) Reelfoot L (JRW), ers. **Canvasback**: 30 Oct (3) Reelfoot L (JRW), ers. **Greater Scaup**: 20 Oct (4) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW), ers; 30 Nov (88) TVA Lake (JRW), max. **Surf Scoter**: 20 Nov (1) Pace Point (JRW); 24-30 Nov (1) Coro L, Shelby Co (JRW et al.). **White-winged Scoter**: 17 Nov (2) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW). **Black Scoter**: 19-27 Nov (1) Britton Ford (MCT, JRW). **Common Merganser**: 27 Nov (1 female) Pace Point (JRW).

Loon - Crane: **Red-throated Loon**: 7-27 Nov (1-2) Pace Point - Paris Landing area (JRW). **Pacific Loon**: 7-27 Nov (1) Pace Point - Paris Landing area (JRW, MCT). **Common Loon**: 7 Nov (900+) Pace Point - Paris Landing area (JRW), max. **YELLOW-BILLED LOON**: 7-27 Nov (1 im) Pace Point - Paris Landing area (JRW). **Red-necked Grebe**: 13-14 Nov (1) Reelfoot L (JRW, Nancy Moore). **Eared Grebe**: 20 Oct (1) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW); 30 Oct (2) Tiptonville Bar, Lake Co (JRW). **American White Pelican**: 18 Aug (100) Island 13 (WGC); 11 Sep (30) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW); 13 Nov (2,000+) Reelfoot L (JRW), max. **Tricolored Heron**: 10

Sep (1) Three Rivers WMA, Obion Co (MAG). **White Ibis**: 4 Sep (1 im) Mud L, Shelby Co (JRW et al.). **Wood Stork**: 20 Aug (1) near Jackson (MCT); 4 / 19 Sep (2) Mud L, Shelby Co (JRW et al.). **Mississippi Kite**: 10 Aug (16) Jackson (MAG); 11 Aug (33 over 1 field) Gibson Co (MAG); max away from Miss. R. corridor. **Bald Eagle**: 3-21 Sep (2 ad) Tigrett WMA (WGC). **SWAINSON'S HAWK**: 27 Sep (1 im) near Trezevant, Carroll Co (MCT). **FERRUGINOUS HAWK**: 21-22 Nov (1 im., light morph) near Jolly's Landing, Lake Co (JRW / MAG). **Golden Eagle**: 7 Nov (1 im) near Pace Point (JRW). **Merlin**: 9 / 10 / 24 Sep (1) Dyer Co (MCT / WGC / JRW); 23 Sep (1) Lake Co (SGS); 26 Sep (1) Henry Co (JRW). **Peregrine Falcon**: 27 / 30 Aug (1 ad) Tigrett WMA (WGC); 9 / 24 Sep (1) Miss. R., Dyer Co (MCT / JRW); 18 Sep / 30 Nov (1) Shelby Co (JRW); 24 Sep / 30 Oct (1) Lake Co (JRW); 26 Nov (2) Pace Point (Steve & Cyndi Routledge). **Common Moorhen**: 25 Sep (1) Reelfoot L (JRW). **Sandhill Crane**: 22 Oct (1) Shelby Co (Gaynell Perry).

Shorebirds: **Black-bellied Plover**: 11 Sep (1) Mud Is., Shelby Co (JRW); 18 Sep (1) North Treatment Plant (JRW); 23 Sep (1) Island 13 (JRW); 12 Oct (6) Big Sandy (MCT). **American Golden-Plover**: 4 Sep (4) Tigrett WMA (WGC); 21 Sep (1) Everett L., Dyer Co (WGC). **Piping Plover**: 9 Sep (1) Island 13 (MCT). **American Avocet**: 11 Sep (1) Mud Is., Shelby Co (JRW); 12 Nov (3) Britton Ford (FF, PDC). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 14 Nov (1) Britton Ford (FF, PDC), lrs. **Willet**: 3 Sep (1) Tigrett WMA (WGC). **Upland Sandpiper**: 10 Aug (1) Lake Co (MAG); 15 Aug (4) North Treatment Plant (JRW); 22 Aug (1) Ensley (JRW). **Marbled Godwit**: 28 Aug (1) TVA Lake (JRW). **Ruddy Turnstone**: 27 Aug / 2 Sep (2 / 1) Ensley (JRW); 27 Aug / 5 Sep (1) North Treatment Plant (JRW); 9 Sep (1) Island 13 (MCT). **Sanderling**: 9 / 23 Sep (1 / 6) Island 13 (MCT). **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 6 Sep (1) Ensley (JRW). **Baird's Sandpiper**: 12 Aug (4) Obion Co (MAG); 23 Aug (1) North Treatment Plant (JRW); 25 Aug / 7 Sep (3 / 1) Tigrett WMA (WGC); 4-19 Sep (1-3) Ensley (JRW); 9 Sep (18) Island 13 (MCT); 19 Sep (1) Big Sandy (MCT). **Dunlin**: 12 Oct (1) Big Sandy (MCT), ers; 13 Nov (6) Lauderdale Refuge (JRW); 14 Nov (8) Island 13 (JRW); 28 Nov (3) North Treatment Plant (Virginia Reynolds). **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**: 15-28 Aug (1-2) Ensley (JRW); 28 Aug (7) Tigrett WMA (WGC); 19 Sep (1) Eagle Cr., Henry Co (MCT). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 22 Aug (1) Tigrett WMA (WGC); 19 Sep (1) Big Sandy (MCT); 12 Oct (2) Britton Ford (MCT); 30 Oct (4) Dyer Co (JRW); 13 Nov (3) Lauderdale Refuge (JRW). **Wilson's Snipe**: 28 Aug (1) North Treatment Plant (JRW), ers. **Wilson's Phalarope**: 22 Aug (1) Tigrett WMA (WGC).

Gull - Owl: **LITTLE GULL**: 21 Nov (1 im) Reelfoot L (JRW). **Laughing Gull**: 19 / 26 Sep (2 / 1) Paris Landing / Pace Point (MCT / JRW). **Franklin's Gull**: 12 Oct (1) Paris Landing (MCT); 16 Oct / 17 Nov (7 / 1) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW); 30 Oct (117+) Reelfoot L (JRW); 14 Nov (7) Eagle Cr., Henry Co (MCT). **THAYER'S GULL**: 28 Nov (1 im) Pickwick Dam (JRW). **Herring Gull**: 19 Sep (50+) Paris Landing (MCT), good number this early. **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 26 Sep / 12 Oct- 20 Nov (5 / 1) Paris Landing (JRW, MCT); 28 Nov (2) Pickwick Dam (JRW). **Least Tern**: 1 Aug (55 / 25) Miss. R., Shelby Co / TVA Lake (JRW).

Caspian Tern: 26 Sep (74) Paris Landing (JRW), max. **Common Tern**: 8 Sep (2) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW); 26 Sep (1) Paris Landing (JRW). **POMARINE JAEGER**: 7 Nov (1) Pace Point - Paris Landing area (JRW). **INCA DOVE**: 25 Aug (1) Cates (MAG), possibly same bird as seen a few days earlier just to the north in Fulton Co, Kentucky. **Long-eared Owl**: 7 Nov (1) Pace Point area (JRW), seen in flight during daylight. **Short-eared Owl**: 13 / 23 Nov (4 / 7) Lake Co (JRW / MCT).

Flycatcher - Finch: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 26 Aug (1) Cates (MCT et al.); 28 Aug (1) Shelby Forest (DDP); 11 Sep (1) Ensley (JRW). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 11 Sep (1) Eagle L (JRW). **Alder Flycatcher**: 26 Aug (1) Cates (MCT et al.). **Philadelphia Vireo**: 9 Sep (1) Dyer Co (MCT). **Purple Martin**: 25 Sep (1) Tiptonville Landing, Lake Co (JRW); 17 Oct (1) Ensley (JRW); both late. **Bank Swallow**: 10 Aug (5,000+) Bessie Bend, Lake Co (MAG), max. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 12 Oct (9) Henry Co (MCT), max. **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 10 Nov (4) Pickwick Dam (JRW). **Sedge Wren**: 18 Oct (1 / 1) North Treatment Plant / TVA Lake (JRW). **Marsh Wren**: 18 Oct (1 / 1) North Treatment Plant / TVA Lake (JRW). **Lapland Longspur**: 30 Oct (12) Lake Co (JRW), ers; 12 Nov (1) Britton Ford (FF, PDC). **Golden-winged Warbler**: 22 Sep (1) Millington, Shelby Co (Van Harris); 25 Sep (1) Eagle L (Gail King). **Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 24 Aug (1 female) Shelby Forest (DDP). **Mourning Warbler**: 18 Sep (1) Shelby Forest (DDP); 25 Sep (1) Eagle L (Gail King). **Wilson's Warbler**: 19 Sep (1) Henry Co (MCT). **Canada Warbler**: 28 Aug (1) Shelby Forest (DDP). **Vesper Sparrow**: 26 Nov (2) Lake Co (JRW). **Lark Sparrow**: 26 Aug (1) Cates (MCT et al.). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 15 Oct (1) North Treatment Plant (JRW), ers. **Nelson's Sparrow**: 15-16 Oct (1-2) North Treatment Plant (JRW). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 12 Oct (1) Henry Co (MCT); 15 Nov (1) North Treatment Plant (JRW). **Purple Finch**: 24 Nov (28) Shelby Co (Jim & Sue Ferguson), max.

Locations: Big Sandy - in Henry Co; Britton Ford - in Henry Co; Cates - in Lake Co; Eagle L. - in Shelby Co; Ensley - in Shelby Co; Island 13 - in Lake Co; North Treatment Plant - in Shelby Co; Pace Point - in Henry Co; Paris Landing - in Henry Co; Pickwick Dam - in Hardin Co; Reelfoot L. - in Lake & Obion Cos; Shelby Forest - in Shelby Co; Tigrett WMA - in Dyer Co; TVA Lake - in Shelby Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION — The fall season in the Nashville area started with well above average temperatures for August, while the following three months were also warmer than usual. The period began with heavy rain in August (nearly 7 inches), but the spigot turned off quickly because September produced barely more than an inch of rain. For the final two months precipitation totals were much closer to normal.

Goose - Tern: **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 24 Nov (2) Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co (Don Davidson, Ruth Luckado et al.). **Snow Goose**: 12 Nov (1) Maury Co (WMP). **Ross's Goose**: 18 Nov (1) Percy Priest L (SGS); 19 Nov (5) Duck R. Unit, Humphreys Co (Clayton Ferrell). **Gadwall**: 14 Oct (4) Radnor L (FF), ers. **American Wigeon**: 18 Oct (5) Radnor L (FF), ers. **American Black Duck**: 18 Sep (18) White Co (Winston Walden, Thomas Saya, Michael O'Rourke), ers. **Redhead**: 30 Oct (4) Radnor L (JKS), ers. **Ring-necked Duck**: 14 Oct (5) Radnor L (FF), ers. **Greater Scaup**: 23 Nov (1) Coleman L, Davidson Co (Chris Sloan). **Long-tailed Duck**: 10 Nov (1 female) Percy Priest L (Richard Connors). **Ruddy Duck**: 21 Oct (1) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co portion (DMo), ers. **Common Loon**: 24 Nov (300) Percy Priest L (SGS), max. **Horned Grebe**: 17 Oct (1) Percy Priest L (SGS), ers. **American Bittern**: 2-18 Nov (1) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd., Nashville (FF, m.ob.). **Great Egret**: 22 Aug (14) Williamson Co (Scott Block). **Little Blue Heron**: 22 Aug (1 im) Williamson Co (Scott Block); 14 Sep (1 ad) DeKalb Co (Judy Fuson), 1st Co. record. **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 2 Oct (1) Murfreesboro (Terry Witt et al.), lrs. **White Ibis**: 6 Aug (1 im) Clay Co (Terry Campbell), 1st Co. record. **Swallow-tailed Kite**: 16 Aug / 2 Sep (1) Fort Campbell (DMo), same bird?, 1st records there. **Merlin**: 2 Sep (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Peregrine Falcon**: 18 Nov (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Sandhill Crane**: 6 Nov (4) Duck R. Unit, Humphreys Co (Steve & Cyndi Routledge). **Red Phalarope**: 11 Sep (1) Old Hickory L, at Wilson / Sumner Co line (Jake Jung, photo). **Black Tern**: 28 Aug (1) Old Hickory Dam, Davidson Co (KB, NTOS).

Dove - Longspur: **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 23 Sep (1) Clarksville (DMo). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 29 Sep (1) Radnor L (KB, NTOS); 9 Oct (1) Beaman Park, on Nashville Fall Count (TL). **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: 7 Nov (1) DeKalb Co (Virginia Curtis), lrs. **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: 28 Sep (2) Hickman Co (WMP), ers. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 4-24 Sep (4 sightings) Lewis Co (WMP). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 9 Oct (1) Rutherford Co., on Nashville Fall Count (SGS), lrs. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 11 Sep (1) Radnor L (FF et al.), ers; 29 Sep (6) Radnor L (KB, NTOS), max; 2 Oct (2) Bradley Cr., Coffee Co (Don Davidson et al.); 2 Oct (1) Lincoln Co (Morris Williams et al.); 13 Oct (1) Radnor L (KB, NTOS), lrs. **Horned Lark**: 14 Sep (20) Robertson Co (TL). **Purple Martin**: 16 Aug (48,000+) Nashville (SGS, NTOS), max at roost site. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 26 Sep (1) Tullahoma, Franklin Co (Ruth Luckado); 28 Sep (2) Hickman Co (WMP); 29 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP); representative arrivals; 9 Oct (11) Nashville Fall Count (fide JKS), max. **Brown Creeper**: 8 Oct (1) Radnor L (FF), ers. **Winter Wren**: 2 Sep (1) Radnor L (JKS); 30 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP); both early. **Sedge Wren**: 14 Oct (1) Warren Co (SNM). **Marsh Wren**: 6 Oct (1) Radnor L (KB, NTOS); 9 Oct (1) Williamson Co (LVK, Ed Gleaves). **Golden-crowned Kinglet**: 1 Oct (1) Lewis Co (WMP), ers. **Veery**: 11 Sep (1) Radnor L (FF et al.), ers. **Swainson's Thrush**: 5 Sep (2) Shelby Park (PDC), ers. **Wood Thrush**: 19 Aug (nest with young) Williamson Co (MJW), 11 days past late date for nestlings in Breeding Bird Atlas. **Lapland Longspur**: 28 Nov (30+) Savannah Bottoms, Hardin Co (JRW).

Warblers: **Blue-winged Warbler**: 9 Oct (2) Nashville Fall Count (fide JKS), lrs. **Golden-winged Warbler**: 4 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP), ers; 8 Sep (3) White's Cr., Davidson Co (ES); 13 Sep (2) Radnor L (FF); 18 / 25 Sep (1) Shelby Park / Bottoms (LVK, NTOS / PDC); 21 Sep (1 ba.) Warner Park Nature Center, Davidson Co (Sandy Bivens); 2 Oct (1) Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co (DDP). **Tennessee Warbler**: 25 Aug (1) Davidson Co (ES), ers. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 30 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP), ers; 5 Nov (1) Bell's Bend (TL, MAZ, SSH), lrs. **Nashville Warbler**: 4 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP), ers. **Magnolia Warbler**: 28 Aug (1) Peeler Park, Davidson Co (KB, NTOS), ers; 23 Oct (1) Nashville (FF), lrs. **Cape May Warbler**: 25 Sep (1) DeKalb Co (EKL, Stephen Stedman). **Yellow-rumped Warbler**: 27 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP), ers. **Black-throated Green Warbler**: 24 Aug (1) Davidson Co (ES), ers. **Blackburnian Warbler**: 4 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP), ers. **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 10 Oct (1) Davidson Co (ES), lrs. **Bay-breasted Warbler**: 11 Sep (1) Radnor L (FF et al.), ers. **Northern Waterthrush**: 2 Sep (1) Fort Campbell (DMo), ers; 14 Nov (1) Harpeth R. Greenway, Davidson Co (FF), new late date in Nashville area. **Mourning Warbler**: 2 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP); 29 Sep (1) Radnor L (KB, NTOS). **Wilson's Warbler**: 5 / 18 Sep (1) Shelby Park (PDC / LVK, NTOS); 10 Sep (1) Ellington Ag. Center, Davidson Co (JKS); 11 Sep (1) Radnor L (FF); 24 Sep (1) Lewis Co (WMP). **Canada Warbler**: 26 Aug (1) Radnor L (FF), ers.

Sparrow - Siskin: **Chipping Sparrow**: 4 Sep (1 nestling, fallen out of nest) Savannah, Hardin Co (Damien Simbeck), nearly 3 weeks past late date for nestlings in Breeding Bird Atlas. **Vesper Sparrow**: 5 Nov (1) Bell's Bend (TL, MAZ, SSH); 9 Nov (1) Shelby Bottoms (JKS). **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 4 Aug (5) Warren Co (SNM). **Henslow's Sparrow**: 8 Sep / 27 Oct (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Fox Sparrow**: 9 Oct (1) Cheatham Co., on Nashville Fall Count (fide JKS), ers; 5 Nov (40+) Bell's Bend (TL, MAZ, SSH), max. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 7 / 24 Oct (1) Nashville (FF). **Swamp Sparrow**: 3 Oct (1) Lewis Co (WMP), ers. **White-crowned Sparrow**: 10 Oct (1) Harpeth R. Greenway, Davidson Co (FF), ers. **Dark-eyed Junco**: 8 Oct (1) Nashville (Richard Connors), ers. **Summer Tanager**: 18 Oct (1) Radnor L (FF), lrs. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**: 11 Sep (1) Ellington Ag. Center, Davidson Co (JKS), ers; 8 Nov (1) DeKalb Co (Virginia Curtis), lrs. **Blue Grosbeak**: 12 Oct (1) Lewis Co (WMP); 14 Oct (1) Warren Co (SNM), lrs. **Rusty Blackbird**: 23 Nov (12) Putnam Co (Doug Downs), ers. **Baltimore Oriole**: 5 Sep (4) Shelby Park (PDC), max; 9 Oct (1) Nashville Fall Count (fide JKS), lrs. **Purple Finch**: 29 Oct / 5 Nov (3 / 17) Davidson Co (ES), ers / max; scattering of other records. **Pine Siskin**: 4 Nov (1) Nashville (LVK), ers.

Locations: Bell's Bend - in Davidson Co; Fort Campbell - in Montgomery Co (unless specified otherwise); Percy Priest L. - in Davidson Co; Radnor L. - in Davidson Co; Shelby Park / Bottoms - in Davidson Co.

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE & VALLEY REGION — The extreme heat of summer continued through late September. In the Tri-cities area the period of June through September had 55 days of 90+ degrees, marking that period as the hottest on record there. October temperatures were more seasonal, while November was warmer than normal. Over the northern half of the region rainfall was above normal each month except October, which had an average amount. In the southern portion of the region the period of August through October had below average rainfall, while November rebounded with a surplus. Most hard and soft mast crops seemed good, at least in Northeast Tennessee.

Duck numbers were lackluster, but two species of scoter appeared. A Pacific Loon near Chattanooga was the second there. A Roseate Spoonbill was photographed in Hawkins County for just the fourth regional record. Among raptors, Merlins made a good showing and two different Swallow-tailed Kites were seen. Twenty-five species of shorebirds were observed at Rankin Bottoms and Upper Douglas Lake this season, highlighted by all three phalaropes. Three rare gull species occurred there, also. Other notable non-passerines included Common Moorhen, Short-eared Owl, and Northern Saw-whet Owl.

Shrikes remained scarce. The thrush and warbler flight seemed near the recent norm. Reports of Lark and Nelson's Sparrows were notable. Boreal irruptives were represented by a modest pulse of Pine Siskins and Purple Finches in November, but few Red-breasted Nuthatches.

Goose - Crane: **Snow Goose**: 6 Nov (1) Cove Lake SP, Campbell Co (Jason Sturner); 27 Nov (19) Hiwassee Refuge (MJW et al.). **Ross's Goose**: 27 Nov (3) Hiwassee Refuge (MJW et al.). **Canvasback**: 13 Nov (62) Marion Co (TLR, Gary Brunvoll). **Ring-necked Duck**: 28 Sep (1) Eagle Bend, Anderson Co (Shane Williams), ers. **Surf Scoter**: 20 Oct (9) Austin Springs (RLK). **Black Scoter**: 2 Nov (10 females) Upper Douglas L (MBS, photo). **Ruddy Duck**: 16 Oct (1) Upper Douglas L (MBS), ers. **PACIFIC LOON**: 19-20 Nov (1 im.) Chickamauga L, Hamilton Co (KAC / DRJ). **Common Loon**: 26 Nov (145) Boone L, Sullivan & Washington Cos. (RLK), max. **Pied-billed Grebe**: 2 Aug (2) Rankin Bottoms (RLK), ers. **Double-crested Cormorant**: 7 Oct (290) Upper Douglas L (MBS), max. **American Bittern**: 27 Sep - 3 Oct (1) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (Tim Jeffers et al.). **Great Egret**: 29 Sep / 2 Nov (160+ / 67) Upper Douglas L (MBS), max / notable late count; 21 Aug (38) Phipps Bend (DHM, RLK), notable number there; 1 Oct (41) Hamilton Co (Tim Jeffers) & 6 Nov (18) Bradley Co (David Chaffin), notable late counts in SE Tenn. **Snowy Egret**: 14 Aug - 4 Sep (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, RLK); 20 Aug (1) Phipps Bend (FRC). **Little Blue Heron**: 2-8 Aug (1 ad) / 2-24 Aug (max 28+ im) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, RLK); 1 / 8 Aug (10 im / 5 im) Chota Refuge, Monroe Co (Marcia Davis / David Trently); 20-27 Aug (2-12 im) Phipps Bend (FRC, RAP, DHM, RLK). **Cattle Egret**: 20-27 Aug (1-2) Phipps Bend (FRC, RAP, DHM, RLK). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 28 Aug (1 ad) Kingsport (RLK), lrs. **White Ibis**: 8 Aug (3 im) Rankin Bottoms (MBS); 20-22 Aug (1-3 im) Phipps Bend (FRC, RAP, DHM, RLK); 28 Aug (1 im) Kingsport (RLK); 28 Aug - 4

Sep (1 im) Hamilton Co (DRJ et al.); 28 Sep / 2 Oct (4 im / 1 im) Upper Douglas L (MBS). ***Plegadis* sp.**: 20 Aug (3) Phipps Bend (FRC). **ROSEATE SPOONBILL**: 19-21 Aug (1) Phipps Bend (Brent Harris, photo / FRC, RAP). **Osprey**: 4 Nov (1) Austin Springs (RLK); 21 Nov (1) Watts Bar L, Roane Co (Ron Hoff, Dollyann Myers), lrs. **Swallow-tailed Kite**: 12-19 Aug (1) near Dunlap, Sequatchie Co (Hayden Wilson, m.ob.); 15 Aug (1) Washington Ferry, Rhea Co (Shane Williams). **Broad-winged Hawk**: 28 Sep (2401) Soddy Mtn., Hamilton Co (Jimmy Wilkerson). **Merlin**: 24 Aug (1) Austin Springs (RRK); 14 Sep (1) Paddle Cr. (JWC); 27 Sep (1) Knox Co (KDE); 5 Oct (1) near Kingsport (GDE); 12 / 25 Oct (1) Austin Springs (RRK / RLK); 9 Nov (1) Wal-Mart Dist. Center (Ben Britton); 19 Nov (1) Limestone (RLK); 26 Nov (1) Greene Co (DHM). **Peregrine Falcon**: 28 Sep (1) Soddy Mtn., Hamilton Co (Jimmy Wilkerson); 11 / 26 Nov (1) Limestone (RLK / Rob Biller), fairly regular wintering site. **Virginia Rail**: 26 Aug - 26 Nov (2-4) Standifer Gap Marsh (TLR, David Patterson et al.). **Sora**: 26 Aug (2) Standifer Gap Marsh (TLR); 31 Oct / 6 Nov (3 / 1) Wal-Mart Dist. Center (DHM). **Common Moorhen**: 27-30 Sep (1) John Sevier L (SHu). **Sandhill Crane**: 13 Nov (3) near Fall Branch, Washington Co (GDE), well east of usual migration corridor. **Whooping Crane**: 27 Nov (1) Hiwassee Refuge (MJW et al.), ers.

Shorebirds: **Black-bellied Plover**: 14 Sep / 10-16 Oct (1 / 2) Upper Douglas L (RLK / DHM, MBS). **American Golden-Plover**: 1-18 Sep (2-3) Rankin Bottoms (EKL, RLK, KDE, MBS); 28 Sep (1) Limestone (GDE); 4 Nov (6) Austin Springs (RLK). **Semipalmated Plover**: 8 Aug (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS), ers. **American Avocet**: 26 Aug (1) Upper Douglas L (Jim Pawlicki). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 4 Nov (10) Austin Springs (RLK), lrs. **Sanderling**: 22 Aug (1) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (KAC, DRJ et al.); 27 Aug - 3 Oct (1-5) Rankin Bottoms / Upper Douglas L (RLK, MBS, m.ob.). **Western Sandpiper**: 7-9 Aug (1) Paddle Cr. (JWC); 14 Aug - 9 Sep (2-10) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, RLK, DHM). **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 18 Aug (1) Paddle Cr. (FRC); 26 Aug - 4 Sep / 10 Oct (1-2) Rankin Bottoms / Upper Douglas L (Jim Pawlicki, RLK, DHM, MBS). **Baird's Sandpiper**: 4 Sep - 2 Oct (2-7) Rankin Bottoms / Upper Douglas L (RLK, DHM, MBS). **Dunlin**: 2 Oct - 11 Nov (1-45) Upper Douglas L (MBS); 31 Oct / 4 Nov (1 / 3) Austin Springs (RLK); 6 Nov (7) Candies Cr., Bradley Co (David Chaffin). **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**: 27 Aug - 9 Sep (3-13) Rankin Bottoms (Jim Pawlicki, EKL, RLK, DHM, MBS, KDE). **Stilt Sandpiper**: 24 Aug - 2 Oct (max 21 on 9 Sep) Rankin Bottoms / Upper Douglas L (MBS, EKL, RLK, KDE); 20 Sep (1) Limestone (RRK); 26 Sep (2) Paddle Cr. (JWC). **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 2-8 Aug / 1-9 Sep (1-2) Rankin Bottoms (RLK, MBS, EKL). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 29 Sep - 2 Oct (1) Upper Douglas L (RLK, MBS). **Wilson's Snipe**: 22 Aug (1) Brainerd Levee (KAC, DRJ et al.), ers. **American Woodcock**: 12 Sep (1) Union Co (Harold Howell); 7 Nov (1) Knox Co (KDE). **Wilson's Phalarope**: 9 Sep (1) Rankin Bottoms (RLK); 28 Sep (1) Limestone (GDE). **Red-necked Phalarope**: 28 Sep (1) Upper Douglas L (MBS, photo). **Red Phalarope**: 30 Sep - 1 Oct (1) John Sevier L. (SHu, photo, DHM); 2-10 Oct (1) Upper Douglas L (MBS, photo); possibly same bird?

Gull - Sapsucker: **Laughing Gull**: 26 Aug - 10 Oct (1-2, with 5 on 29 Sep) Upper Douglas L (Jim Pawlicki, DHM, RLK, MBS, m.ob.), unusually long stay. **Franklin's Gull**: 29 Sep (4 im) Upper Douglas L (RLK, MBS, photo), rare in East Tenn. **Ring-billed Gull**: 14 Sep (112) Upper Douglas L (RLK), good number this early. **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 3 Oct (1, first winter) Upper Douglas L (RLK, RRK), rare in East Tenn. **Herring Gull**: 10 Oct (2) Upper Douglas L (DHM, MBS), ers. **Black Tern**: 23 Aug (5) Nickajack L (KAC). **Caspian Tern**: 14 Aug / 4 Sep (1 / 6) Upper Douglas L (MBS / DHM et al.); 24 Aug / 5 Sep (1) Tenn. R., Hamilton Co (DA / DRJ); 8 / 23 Sep (1 / 2) Austin Springs (RLK / GDE); 19 Sep (1) Nickajack L (TLR). **Common Tern**: 4 Sep (1) Chickamauga L, Hamilton Co (DRJ); 13 Sep (1) Nickajack L (KAC); 29 Sep (2) Upper Douglas L (RLK, MBS). **Forster's Tern**: 18 Aug (4) L. Tansi, Cumberland Co (EKL); 26 Aug / 2 Nov (5 / 2) John Sevier L (SHu); 4 Sep (1) Upper Douglas L (DHM et al.); 23 Sep (1) Austin Springs (GDE). **Barn Owl**: late Aug (nest with young) west Knox Co (fide KDE), nest in building under construction; 24 Sep (1, road kill) Kingsport (FJA); 25 Sep (1) Bible Refuge, Greene Co (DHM). **Short-eared Owl**: 10 Nov (1) Cumberland Co (EKL). **Northern Saw-whet Owl**: 7 Nov (1 ba.) Seven Is. Refuge, Knox Co (Mark Armstrong et al.). **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: 26 Oct (1) Hamilton Co (Carol Fegarido), lrs. **Rufous Hummingbird**: 25 Aug (1 ad. male) Maryville, Blount Co (WB); 23 Nov into Dec (1 im. female, ba.) John Sevier L (SHu / Mark Armstrong). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: 25 Sep (1) Johnson City / Kingsport (RLK / Bill Grigsby), ers.

Flycatcher - Longspur: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 26 Sep (1) Craven's House (KAC). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 26 Sep (1) Craven's House (KAC). **Willow Flycatcher**: 6 Sep (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (DRJ, KAC). **Least Flycatcher**: 6 Sep (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (DRJ, KAC); 4 Oct (1) Craven's House (TLR). **Loggerhead Shrike**: 19 Nov (1) Washington Co (RLK); 20 Nov (1) Greene Co (DHM); only reports in these two Cos.; 23 Nov (1 / 3) Blount Co / Loudon Co (Tony King). **Blue-headed Vireo**: 7 Nov (1) Knox Co (KDE), lrs. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 14 Sep (1) Greeneville (DHM); 14 / 19 Sep (1) Johnson City (RLK); 26 Sep (1) Craven's House (KAC). **Common Raven**: 27 Aug (1) Phipps Bend (RAP); 28 Aug / 21 Nov (1 / 2) Kingsport (RLK / JSM); 13 Sep / 13 Nov (1) Bristol (Larry McDaniel / RLK); 17 Sep (1) Austin Springs (RLK); 7 Nov (1) Blountville, Sullivan Co (DHM). **Tree Swallow**: 2 Oct (2,000+) Upper Douglas L (MBS), max. **Bank Swallow**: 26 Sep (1) Knox Co (KDE), lrs. **Barn Swallow**: 27 Oct (2) Hawkins Co (SHu), lrs. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 1 Oct (1) Knox Co (KDE), ers; 8 Oct (1) Craven's House (KAC), ers in SE Tenn.; only a few other scattered reports. **Sedge Wren**: 25 Sep (3) Bible Refuge, Greene Co (DHM). **Marsh Wren**: 16 Oct (1) John Sevier L (DHM); 6 / 14 Nov (1) Wal-Mart Dist. Center (DHM); 7 Nov (3) Blount Co (Tom Howe). **Golden-crowned Kinglet**: 1 Oct (1) Knox Co (KDE), ers. **Thrushes**: 26 Sep, a half-hour of pre-dawn listening at Knoxville yielded: Veery - 100, Gray-cheeked Thrush - 50, Swainson's Thrush - 500 (KDE). **Hermit Thrush**: 11 Oct (1) Knox Co (KDE), ers. **American Pipit**: 10 Oct (1) Upper Douglas L (DHM, MBS), ers; 19 Nov (350+) Limestone (RLK), max. **Lapland Longspur**: 6 Nov (1) Wal-Mart Dist. Center (DHM); 11-27 Nov (2) Limestone (RLK, m.ob.).

Warbler - Siskin: **Golden-winged Warbler**: 26 Sep (1) Knox Co (Than Boves); 26 Sep (1) Craven's House (KAC). **"Brewster's" Warbler**: 3 Sep (1) Hawkins Co (Dee Eiklor). **Tennessee Warbler**: 31 Aug (1) Knox Co (KDE), ers; 25 Oct (1) Kingsport (JSM), lrs. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 18 / 26 Sep (1) Knox Co (KDE), rather early; 9 Oct (1) Kingsport (JSM); 14 Oct (1) Cumberland Co (EKL); 14 Nov (1) Blount Co (Chris Welsh). **Magnolia Warbler**: 28 Aug (2) Greene Co (DHM), ers. **Blackburnian Warbler**: 22 Aug (2) Craven's House (KAC, DRJ et al.), ers. **Blackpoll Warbler**: 26 Sep (1) Seven Is. Refuge, Knox Co (KDE), rare in fall. **Cerulean Warbler**: 15 Aug (5) Craven's House (KAC, DRJ); 31 Aug (1) Knox Co (KDE); 15 Sep (1) Greeneville (DHM). **Ovenbird**: 8 Oct - 3 Nov (1) Hamilton Co (Libby Wolf), lrs. **Northern Waterthrush**: 15 Oct (1) Greene Co (DHM), lrs. **Mourning Warbler**: 19 Sep (1) Marion Co (TLR). **Common Yellowthroat**: 6 Nov (1) Wal-Mart Dist. Center (DHM), lrs. **Wilson's Warbler**: 10 Sep (1 ba.) Hamilton Co (DA); 26 Sep (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC); 26 Sep (1) Knox Co (Than Boves). **Lark Sparrow**: 2 Aug (1) Kingsport (FRC), 6th record in NE Tenn. **Nelson's Sparrow**: 18 Oct (2) Wal-Mart Dist. Center (DW). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 23 Sep / 14 Oct (1 / 6) Cumberland Co (EKL); 8 Oct (1, found dead) Chattanooga (DA); 16 Oct (1 ba.) Steele Cr. Park, Sullivan Co (Richard Lewis); 23 Oct (1) Greene Co (DHM); 29 Oct (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (DRJ). **Summer Tanager**: 16 Oct (1) Kingsport (RAP), late there; 23 Oct (1, at feeder) Sequatchie Co (Clyde Blum), lrs. **Scarlet Tanager**: 4 Nov (1) Blount Co (Tom Howe), lrs. **Dickcissel**: 18 Sep (2, calling in flight) Knox Co (KDE). **Rusty Blackbird**: 4 / 7 Nov (10 / 275) Blount Co (Tom Howe), ers / max. **Baltimore Oriole**: used nest made mostly of monofilament fishing line, on low branch (~ 10 ft. above ground) of sycamore tree beside south fork Holston R. at Kingsport Greenbelt (RLK), Breeding Bird Atlas mentions 2 similar nests. **Purple Finch**: 26 Oct (1) Kingsport (JSM), ers; flurry of scattered reports thru Nov. **Pine Siskin**: 3 Nov (1) Greeneville (DHM), ers; 20 Nov (14) Standifer Gap Marsh (TLR), max; flurry of scattered reports thru Nov.

Locations: Austin Springs - in Washington Co; Craven's House - unit of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park in Hamilton Co; Hiwassee Refuge - in Meigs Co; John Sevier L. - in Hawkins Co; Limestone - in Washington Co; Nickajack L. - in Marion Co; Paddle Cr. - in Sullivan Co; Phipps Bend - in Hawkins Co; Rankin Bottoms - in Cocke Co; Standifer Gap Marsh - in Hamilton Co; Upper Douglas L. - primarily Cocke Co; Wal-Mart Distribution Center - in Greene Co.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION — Average daily temperatures were above normal. August was especially hot with 19 days at 90 degrees or above in the lower elevations. Precipitation was below normal in August and above normal for the rest of the period.

Banding operations were conducted on Big Bald Mountain for both passerines and

raptors. A hawkwatch was also conducted at the same location, with highlights including 29 Merlins and 12 Peregrine Falcons. The 7 Northern Saw-whet Owls banded there is the lowest annual total in the seven years of banding them at Big Bald. For more info on efforts at this site, see their website <www.bigbaldbanding.org>.

- Big Bald Mountain passerine banding: 1 Sep - 1 Nov (2386 birds of 48 species banded), Mark Hopey, Kathy Gunther, Lynn Brandon, Cleo Mayfield, & Teddy McManuson, banders. Top species banded: Tennessee Warbler (1019), Swainson's Thrush (341), Black-throated Blue Warbler (247), Cape May Warbler (177), Ovenbird (75).
- Big Bald Mountain hawk and owl banding: 3 Sep - 5 Nov (102 birds of 6 species banded), Mark Hopey, bander. Species banded: Sharp-shinned Hawk (52), Cooper's Hawk (27), Red-tailed Hawk (9), Merlin (6), American Kestrel (1), Northern Saw-whet Owl (7).
- Whigg Meadow (Monroe Co.): thru the first half of their banding season (thru 13 Sep), 812 birds of 30 species had been banded (David Vogt et al.); their final report was not received.

Duck - Egret: **Northern Pintail**: 27 Oct (1) South Holston L (RLK), ers. **Canvasback**: 16 Nov (1) South Holston L (RLK). **Redhead**: 1 Nov (7) South Holston L (JWC), ers. **Greater Scaup**: 4 Nov (6) South Holston L (RLK). **Lesser Scaup**: 4 / 16 Nov (56 / 48) South Holston L (RLK); 4 Nov (29) Shady Valley (JWC). **Black Scoter**: 16 Nov (7 females) South Holston L (RLK). **Bufflehead**: 10-24 Aug (2) South Holston R. weir, Sullivan Co (RRK, Gil Derouen, Reese Jamerson), quite early; 30 Oct (2) Wilbur L, Carter Co (Brookie Potter), ers there. **Red-breasted Merganser**: 26 Nov (8) South Holston L (RLK). **Ruddy Duck**: 1 Nov (9) South Holston L (JWC), ers. **Common Loon**: 9-18 Sep (1) South Holston L (JWC, m.ob.), rather early; 26 Nov (210+) South Holston L (RLK), max. **Horned Grebe**: 1 Nov (1) South Holston L (JWC), ers. **Eared Grebe**: 30 Aug / 24-27 Oct (1, still in breeding plumage on latter dates) South Holston L (JWC / RLK), only reports there, 17th consecutive year present. **Double-crested Cormorant**: 25 Sep - mid Oct (1) Fishery Park, Unicoi Co (JHM et al.), seldom seen in Co. **Cattle Egret**: 27 Oct (2) near Elizabethton, Carter Co (Harry Farthing, photo).

Table 1. Fall 2010 Hawkwatch Totals for Big Bald Mtn., 2 Sep - 1 Nov. (MEH et al.)

Black Vulture	8	Broad-winged Hawk	1817
Turkey Vulture	248	Red-tailed Hawk	133
Osprey	11	Golden Eagle	1
Bald Eagle	8	American Kestrel	25
Northern Harrier	15	Merlin	29
Sharp-shinned Hawk	289	Peregrine Falcon	12
Cooper's Hawk	97	unknown	70
Red-shouldered Hawk	2		

Total: 256 vultures and 2509 hawks = 2765.

Eagle - Tern: **Bald Eagle**: 13 Sep (1 ad) Roan Mtn (Aubrie Abernethy); 26 Nov (5) South Holston L (RLK), max there. **Northern Harrier**: 26 Aug (1) Roan Mtn (RLK), ers; 2 Nov (3) Cades Cove (WB). **Golden Eagle**: 12 Nov (1 im) Roan Mtn (RLK). **Merlin**: 30 Aug (1) Roan Mtn (DW); 25 Sep (1) Unaka Mtn (JHM et al.). **Peregrine Falcon**: 25 Sep (1) Watauga R, Carter Co (Gary Wallace et al.); 25-26 Sep / 26 Nov (1) South Holston L (GDE, RRK / RLK). **Virginia Rail**: 24 Nov (1) Sugarlands, GSMNP (Troy Evans). **Semipalmated Plover**: 30 Aug (1) South Holston L (JWC). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 1 Nov (1) South Holston L (JWC), lrs. **WHIMBREL**: 16-21 Sep (1) Big Bald Mtn (Rad Mayfield, MEH, Tommy Edwards et al.), observed feeding on grasshoppers, 2nd record there & 3rd overall from high elevation grassy balds in NE Tenn.**Sanderling**: 29 Aug / 14 Sep / 21 Sep (1) South Holston L (JWC et al.). **Dunlin**: 4 Nov (1) South Holston L (JWC). **Laughing Gull**: 26 Nov (1) South Holston L (RLK), new late date in NE Tenn. **Bonaparte's Gull**: 4 Oct (1) South Holston L (RLK, Jacki Hinshaw), ers. **Ring-billed Gull**: 8 Aug (1) South Holston L (JWC), ers; 26 Sep (1) Elizabethton (Bryan Stevens), also early. **Herring Gull**: 20 Aug (1 im) South Holston L (JWC), new early date in NE Tenn. **Caspian Tern**: 7 Aug / 10-13 Sep (1 / 2) South Holston L (JWC). **Black Tern**: 3 Sep (11) South Holston L (JWC). **Common Tern**: 13 Aug / 27 Sep / 10 Oct (5 / 11 / 4) South Holston L (JWC / RLK / JWC). **Forster's Tern**: 4 Sep (3) South Holston L (RLK).

Dove - Pipit: **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 15 Aug (4) Holston Valley (JWC), max there. **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 11 Aug (1) Roan Mtn (RRK); 16 Sep (1) Unaka Mtn (Richard Connors, Don Holt); 25 Sep (1) Roan Mtn (FJA); 25 Sep (1) Holston Mtn, Carter Co (Brookie & Jean Potter, Gary Wallace). **Rufous Hummingbird**: late Oct - 18 Nov (1 ba.) Hampton, Carter Co (fide Bryan Stevens, Jean Potter / banded by Mark Armstrong). **Red-headed Woodpecker**: 28 Sep (2 im) Cades Cove (WB); 24 Oct (1 ad) Carter Co (John Adams). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: 11 Sep (1) Roan Mtn SP (RLK, FJA, Kenn Kaufman, m.ob.), ers. **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 7 Aug (1) Greene Mtn., Greene Co (DHM); 28 Aug (1) Rich Mtn., Unicoi Co (DW); 5 Oct (1) Cades Cove (WB), quite late. **White-eyed Vireo**: 27 Oct (1) Holston Valley (RLK), lrs. **Blue-headed Vireo**: 8 Nov (1) South Holston Dam (Mike Sanders), lrs. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 10 Sep (2) Hampton Cr. Cove, Carter Co (DW); 14 / 20 Sep (1 ba. each day) Big Bald Mtn (MEH); 25 Sep (1) Holston Mtn, Carter Co (Gary Wallace et al.); 25 Sep (1) Roan Cr., Johnson Co (Tom McNeil, Rob Biller). **Horned Lark**: 26 Oct (1) Cades Cove (WB). **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 14 Oct (2) South Holston L (RLK), lrs. **Carolina Chickadee**: 12 Nov (1) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (RLK), unusual at high elevation. **Marsh Wren**: 25 Sep / 9 Oct (1) Quarry Bog in Shady Valley (GDE / RLK). **Hermit Thrush**: 25 Sep (1) Unaka Mtn (JHM). **Brown Thrasher**: 26 Aug (1 ad, 1 juv.) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (RLK), scarce breeder at high elevation. **American Pipit**: 21 Sep (1) South Holston L (RRK et al.); 25 Sep (1) Big Bald Mtn (JHM et al.); both early; 16 Nov (120+) Cades Cove (WB), max.

Warbler - Siskin: **Blue-winged Warbler**: 11 Sep (1) Roan Mtn SP (RLK, FJA, Kenn Kaufman, m.ob.), lrs. **Golden-winged Warbler**: early Sep (2 ba.) Whigg Meadow,

Monroe Co (David Vogt); 5 Oct (1) Cades Cove (WB), lrs. **Tennessee Warbler**: 23 Aug (3) Roan Mtn (Mike Sanders), ers. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 5 Oct (2) Cades Cove (WB); 14 Oct (1) Holston Valley (RLK). **Nashville Warbler**: 7 Sep - 9 Oct (18 ba.) Big Bald Mtn (MEH et al.). **Cape May Warbler**: 23 Aug (2) Roan Mtn (Mike Sanders), ers. **Palm Warbler**: 28 Sep (120) Cades Cove (WB), max. **Northern Waterthrush**: 18 Oct (1) Elizabethton (RLK), lrs. **Connecticut Warbler**: 29 Sep (1 ba.) Big Bald Mtn (MEH et al.). **Wilson's Warbler**: 6 Sep (1 ba.) Big Bald Mtn (MEH et al.); 17 / 21 Sep (1) Elizabethton (RLK). **Yellow-breasted Chat**: 27 Sep (1) Holston Valley (RLK), lrs. **Vesper Sparrow**: 6 Sep (1) Roan Mtn (RLK); 2 / 16 Nov (4 / 2) Cades Cove (WB). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 22 Sep (1) Hampton Cr. Cove, Carter Co (DW); 9 Oct (1) Quarry Bog in Shady Valley (RLK). **White-crowned Sparrow**: 25 Sep (1) Ripshin L, Carter Co (FJA et al.), ers. **Bobolink**: 25 Sep (27) Quarry Bog in Shady Valley (GDE, RRK). **Purple Finch**: few scattered reports in Nov. **Red Crossbill**: 28 Nov (2) Cades Cove (Mike Roussin), only report. **Pine Siskin**: thru season (2-15) Roan Mtn (RLK et al.); few scattered reports elsewhere in Nov.

Corrigendum: In *Migrant* 81:58, the report of **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 14 Nov 2009 (1) in Cades Cove should be deleted. There are no confirmed records in the park, although there are several records from nearby Gatlinburg (fide Paul Super).

Addendum: **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 29 Jul 2010 (1) lower Abrams Cr., GSMNP (Jennifer Bradbury, Troy Evans, photo).

Locations: Big Bald Mtn - in Unicoi Co; Cades Cove - in Great Smoky Mtns. National Park; Holston Valley - in Sullivan Co; Roan Mtn - in Carter Co; Shady Valley - in Johnson Co; South Holston L. - in Sullivan Co; Unaka Mtn - in Unicoi Co.

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